(b) if not, the facts thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that only Rs. 60 to Rs. 31 respectively is being given as wages by heavily stashing the above said payment;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the names of States where such practice is going in the country; and

(e) the steps that have been taken by Government against above said irregularity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. According to SGRY Guidelines, wages to be paid under the programme both for skilled and unskilled labourers shall not be less than the minimum wages fixed by the State Government concerned.

(c) and (d) In some States, wages are linked with task performed by workers. Due to this, actual wages earned on a work under the programme can be different from minimum wages per day depending upon task performed by workes.

(e) State Governments are advised from time to time to ensure payment of minimum wages under SGRY.

Scheme to provide drinking water

† 3100. SHRI BALVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have fixed a target to provide drinking water to all by the year 2007;

(b) whether Government have formulated a scheme to provide drinking water to all the schools in rural areas by 31st March, 2006;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government have asked the States to propose an action plan in this regard; and

(e) if so, the names of the States which have submitted their action plan to the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (c) Rural drinking water supply is one of the six components of Bharat Nirman, which has been conceived as a plan to be implemented in four years for building rural infrastructure. It is proposed to cover the remaining 55067 uncovered rural habitations of the Comprehensive Action Plan prepared in 1999, rural habitations which have slipped back after having been covered with rural drinking water supply schemes and rural habitations affected by water quality under Bharat Nirman by 2008-09. The Government endeavours to cover all rural schools with drinking water supply by 31st March 2006. However, in case there is any spill over, there is a provision to consolidate coverage of all rural schools latest by 2006-2007. The total expenditure envisaged for the rural drinking water component of Bharat Nirman has been estimated at Rs. 41,637 crores, with central share of Rs. 25,300 crores.

With regard to drinking water supply in urban areas, the Tenth Plan document of the Planning Commission envisages to cover entire urban population with drinking water supply by the end of the Tenth Plan period (i.e. 2006-07) for which estimated requirement of funds has been assessed as Rs. 28,240 crore.

(d) and (e) All the States and Union Territories have been asked to prepare an Action Plan for implementation of the Bharat Nirman. Majority of States have given their plan for coverage of rural schools.

Assistance under PMGSY and SGSY to projects of Karnataka

3101. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of projects in respect of which assistance has been sought by Government of Karnataka under PMGSY and SGSY are pending with the Central Government; and